

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A semi-automatic dispenser for disposable cups, comprising:

a semicircular box having a straight vertical wall facing a rear side and a curved vertical wall facing a front side, as well as an upper plate;

a fastening plate for the dispenser on the rear side;

a vertically assembled tubular drawer with a top lid, said tubular drawer forming a compartment for several disposable cups arranged upside-down, wherein the semicircular box is axially aligned with the tubular drawer;

a tubular and vertical section connected to the box and forming an exit for the cups to be dispensed, said tubular and vertical section having a bottom end that is narrower than a top end, and having a median peg that reverses a cup in the tubular and vertical section from an upside down position to an upright

position;

a plate having a semicircular shape fitted underneath the semicircular box, and which closes the box;

a sliding diaphragm plate disposed above the semicircular plate and having a circular opening and a blind section;

an articulation bolt disposed at a rear edge of the sliding diaphragm plate;

an extension on a front edge of sliding diaphragm plate, said extension forming a digital handle, said extension projecting to an outside of the box through a slot in the front vertical wall of the box, said extension being dimensioned so that the diaphragm-plate can be moved from one side to another, to move the circular opening of the sliding diaphragm plate into and out of alignment with two other circular openings that exist in the upper wall of the box and in the semicircular plate, respectively, said two other openings being aligned with the tubular drawer and the tubular section, wherein the slot has a length such that the diaphragm plate can be displaced so that the blind section can be placed between the two other circular openings; and

a horseshoe shaped part disposed above the diaphragm-plate, said part having tapered ends that face the

blind section, and a round body that surrounds the circular opening in the diaphragm plate, said part having an internal border that is contoured by a step or advanced border, said step or advanced border separating a cup to be dispensed into an interior of the tubular section.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The semi-automatic dispenser according to claim 12, further comprising a spring disposed on an inner side of the box, said spring maintaining the diaphragm plate in a tensioned position so that the blind section overlaps the other two openings.

Claims 14-17: Canceled.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~The semi-automatic dispenser according to claim 14,~~ A semi-automatic dispenser for disposable cups, comprising:

a box having a parallelepipedal shape and a height smaller than a width, with an upper wall having a central opening and a fitting and fastening neck on a top surface and a semi-circular neck on a lower surface, which corresponds to an axial passage for the cups to be dispensed;

fastening means disposed on a rear of the box;

a tubular shelf having a top lid, said shelf forming a compartment for several disposable cups arranged upside down in form of a stack, said shelf being connected to the fitting and fastening neck;

a rectangular lid for closing a bottom section of the box, said lid having a round central opening, with one side of said opening being axially aligned with the central opening of the box, said rectangular lid having a neck that forms a passage or exit for the cups to be dispensed;

a tubular receiving shelf for dispensed cups, said receiving shelf being connected at an upper edge to the neck on the bottom plate;

a slidable diaphragm disposed in an inner section of the box, said diaphragm being formed by a plate having a blind section on one side and with an opening having a diameter corresponding to the openings in the box and bottom plate, and with a diameter of a mouth of a cup to be dispensed, wherein the blind section is adapted to be movable so that it overlaps or is outside the openings in the box and bottom plate, wherein in an overlapping position, the blind section closes the bottom plate and supports the stack of cups to be dispensed, and wherein the hole in the diaphragm is movable so that it overlaps or is outside the openings in the box and bottom plate, such that in an

overlapping position of the holes with the holes in axial alignment with each other, a cup to be dispensed passes through an interior of the receiving drawer;

a horseshoe-shaped part fitted over the diaphragm and following a contour of the opening in the diaphragm opposite the semi-circular neck, so that the horseshoe-shaped part and the semi-circular opening combine to form a round passage section for the cup to be dispensed, wherein the horseshoe-shaped part has cooperative internal means that separate a first bottom cup while retaining the other cups when the diaphragm is moved to align the openings in the box, bottom plate and diaphragm,

wherein the horseshoe-shaped part has branches that are parallel to one another and joining with a curved or semi-circular central section, wherein the central section and the branches have coplanar bottom faces,

wherein the branches have upper faces that are inclined downward toward their ends,

wherein an inner face of the horseshoe shaped part have means for separation of the cups, said means comprising a rim or groove having a horizontal portion extending along a curve of the central section and an inclined section that extends along the branches, following an angle of inclination of the upper face of the branches, so that the ends of the horseshoe-shaped part can

remain aligned to penetrate into a space between rounded borders of a first cup and a second cup, and

wherein the diaphragm is adapted to be moved so that the inclination of the rim or groove in the branches is sufficient to separate first cup from the second cup and liberate the first cup through the passage while other cups are retained against the means for separation of the cups.

Claims 19-20: Canceled.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): ~~The semi-automatic dispenser according to claim 14,~~ A semi-automatic dispenser for disposable cups, comprising:

a box having a parallelepipedal shape and a height smaller than a width, with an upper wall having a central opening and a fitting and fastening neck on a top surface and a semi-circular neck on a lower surface, which corresponds to an axial passage for the cups to be dispensed;

fastening means disposed on a rear of the box;

a tubular shelf having a top lid, said shelf forming a compartment for several disposable cups arranged upside down in form of a stack, said shelf being connected to the fitting and fastening neck;

a rectangular lid for closing a bottom section of the box, said lid having a round central opening, with one side of said opening being axially aligned with the central opening of the box, said rectangular lid having a neck that forms a passage or exit for the cups to be dispensed;

a tubular receiving shelf for dispensed cups, said receiving shelf being connected at an upper edge to the neck on the bottom plate;

a slidable diaphragm disposed in an inner section of the box, said diaphragm being formed by a plate having a blind section on one side and with an opening having a diameter corresponding to the openings in the box and bottom plate, and with a diameter of a mouth of a cup to be dispensed, wherein the blind section is adapted to be movable so that it overlaps or is outside the openings in the box and bottom plate, wherein in an overlapping position, the blind section closes the bottom plate and supports the stack of cups to be dispensed, and wherein the hole in the diaphragm is movable so that it overlaps or is outside the openings in the box and bottom plate, such that in an overlapping position of the holes with the holes in axial alignment with each other, a cup to be dispensed passes through an interior of the receiving drawer;

a horseshoe-shaped part fitted over the diaphragm and

following a contour of the opening in the diaphragm opposite the semi-circular neck, so that the horseshoe-shaped part and the semi-circular opening combine to form a round passage section for the cup to be dispensed, wherein the horseshoe-shaped part has cooperative internal means that separate a first bottom cup while retaining the other cups when the diaphragm is moved to align the openings in the box, bottom plate and diaphragm,

wherein an upper end of the receiving shelf has a tubular shape and is connected to the semi-circular neck, and has a semi-circular longitudinal cut,

wherein the receiving shelf further comprises a median peg in an inner section thereof,

wherein the receiving shelf has a radius sufficient to maintain a cup imprisoned within the shelf while a bottom of the cup, having a smaller diameter, is launched outside the shelf, when the cup touches the median peg, the peg causing the cup to rotate 180° and is maintained in a lower section of the receiving shelf, the receiving shelf having a lower edge with a diameter smaller than a largest diameter of the cup so that the cup is maintained fixed with its rim in the lower edge of the shelf until removal by a user.

Claim 22: Canceled.